



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

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# News Release

## **65-YEAR-OLD OHIO HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER SENTENCED TO 70 MONTHS FOR SEXUALLY MINOR**

*Met 13-year-old victim via Internet and traveled to Indiana for sex*

INDIANAPOLIS—A 65-year-old Ohio high school teacher was sentenced to 70 months in prison Thursday for traveling across state lines to engage in sexual acts with a 13-year-old Indiana girl he met on the Internet.

David Hughes, a local high school teacher from Greenville, Ohio, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge David F. Hamilton in the Southern District of Indiana after being convicted based upon evidence gathered in an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

The investigation was initiated in early October after the victim approached local authorities in Indiana with allegations of sexual abuse. ICE agents served a federal search warrant at Hughes' Birt Street residence in Greenville Oct. 15 and seized two computers. Subsequent investigation by ICE forensic experts revealed that Hughes had traveled several times to Indiana to meet with his victim, and had sex with her at least once in a local Indiana hotel.

"ICE is determined to identify and arrest sexual predators who prey upon our children," said Special Agent-in-Charge Elissa A. Brown of the Chicago ICE office, which oversees investigations in Indiana. "The Internet and its perceived anonymity will no longer provide a safe harbor for criminals to conduct their deviant business."

Hughes' arrest and prosecution is part of Operation Predator, an ongoing ICE enforcement initiative to protect children from pornographers, child prostitution rings, Internet predators, alien smugglers, human traffickers, and other predatory criminals. Since the initiative began in July 2003, ICE agents have arrested more than 4,400 individuals nationwide.

# ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security.*